

House File 32

HOUSE FILE _____
BY PETERSEN, HEDDENS, REICHERT,
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KRESSIG, WHITAKER, and
PETTENGILL

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act creating a twenty=first century Iowa scholars program and
2 fund to be administered by the college student aid commission,
3 and requiring a program promotion and support study.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
5 TLSB 1166YH 82
6 kh/je/5

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1 1 Section 1. TWENTY=FIRST CENTURY IOWA SCHOLARS PROGRAM
1 2 PROMOTION AND SUPPORT STUDY. The college student aid
1 3 commission shall conduct a study of the promotional and
1 4 support components needed to make Iowa students who are
1 5 potentially eligible for the twenty=first century Iowa
1 6 scholars program aware of the program and enthusiastic about
1 7 participating in the program. The commission shall also
1 8 develop a plan to promote the program, provide information
1 9 about the program and easy access to program forms and
1 10 applications, and encourage participation in the program by
1 11 potentially eligible students. The plan shall provide for an
1 12 internet home page, special scholar publication, a toll=free
1 13 telephone number, and the placement and utilization of up to
1 14 fifteen regional program support sites. The regional support
1 15 sites shall provide tutoring, mentoring, summer camps,
1 16 cultural and arts outings, sports and recreational activities,
1 17 college visits, career preparation, job shadowing,
1 18 internships, study skills, literacy programs, newsletters,
1 19 community service projects, and parent activities. The
1 20 commission shall identify the amount anticipated to be
1 21 necessary to provide funding for the scholarships, based on
1 22 the results of the study and preliminary estimates of the
1 23 number of eligible eighth grade pupils. The commission shall
1 24 submit its plan, findings, recommendations, and a fiscal
1 25 analysis of the plan to the general assembly not later than
1 26 December 15, 2007.
1 27 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 261.27 TWENTY=FIRST CENTURY IOWA
1 28 SCHOLARS PROGRAM AND FUND.
1 29 1. PROGRAM == ELIGIBILITY. A twenty=first century Iowa
1 30 scholars program is established to be administered by the
1 31 college student aid commission. A person who meets the
1 32 following requirements is eligible for the program:
1 33 a. Is a resident of Iowa and a citizen of the United
1 34 States or a lawful permanent resident.
1 35 b. Is a student enrolled in grade seven or grade eight in
2 1 a school district or accredited nonpublic school in Iowa, and
2 2 agrees in writing, on a document also signed by the student's
2 3 parent or guardian, that the student will:
2 4 (1) Graduate from a public or accredited nonpublic high
2 5 school in Iowa whose curricula meets the admission criteria of
2 6 a community college, an institution of higher learning under
2 7 the control of the state board of regents, or an accredited
2 8 private institution.
2 9 (2) Achieve a cumulative grade point average upon
2 10 graduation of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 grading scale, or its
2 11 equivalent if another grading scale is used, for courses taken
2 12 by the student in grades nine through twelve.
2 13 (3) Not illegally use controlled substances as defined in
2 14 section 124.101.
2 15 (4) Not use tobacco products.
2 16 (5) Not operate a motor vehicle while intoxicated as

2 17 prohibited by section 321J.2 or 321J.2A.
2 18 (6) Not commit a delinquent act as defined in section
2 19 232.2, not become a runaway child as defined in section 710.8,
2 20 and not become a truant as defined in section 299.8.
2 21 c. Is a child receiving foster care services paid for by
2 22 the state under section 234.35 or funded in whole or in part
2 23 under Title IV=E of the federal Social Security Act, or is a
2 24 child eligible for free or reduced price meals under the
2 25 federal National School Lunch Act and the federal Child
2 26 Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. } 1751=1785.

2 27 d. Applies in a timely manner for admission to a community
2 28 college, an institution of higher learning under the control
2 29 of the state board of regents, or an accredited private
2 30 institution and is accepted for admission.

2 31 e. Applies in a timely manner for any federal or state
2 32 student financial assistance available to the student to
2 33 attend a community college, an institution of higher learning
2 34 under the control of the state board of regents, or an
2 35 accredited private institution.

3 1 f. Files a new application, and parents' confidential
3 2 statement, as applicable, annually on the basis of which the
3 3 applicant's eligibility for a renewed scholarship will be
3 4 evaluated and determined.

3 5 2. FUND ESTABLISHED. A twenty-first century Iowa scholars
3 6 fund is created in the state treasury as a separate fund under
3 7 the control of the commission. All moneys deposited or paid
3 8 into the fund are appropriated and made available to the
3 9 college student aid commission to be used for scholarships for
3 10 students meeting all of the requirements of this section,
3 11 including meeting the requirements agreed to in subsection 1,
3 12 paragraph "b". Notwithstanding section 8.33, any balance in
3 13 the fund on June 30 of each fiscal year shall not revert to
3 14 the general fund of the state, but shall be available for the
3 15 purposes of this section in subsequent fiscal years.
3 16 Scholarships awarded pursuant to this section shall not exceed
3 17 the resident tuition rate and mandatory fees for the program
3 18 of enrollment established for institutions of higher learning
3 19 under the control of the state board of regents.

3 20 3. DISCONTINUATION OF ATTENDANCE == REMITTANCE. If the
3 21 commission finds that a student receiving a scholarship under
3 22 the program discontinues attendance before the end of any
3 23 academic period or has violated the agreement signed pursuant
3 24 to subsection 1, but the discontinuance or violation of the
3 25 agreement occurs after scholarship moneys have been paid for
3 26 the academic period, the entire amount of any refund due the
3 27 student, up to the amount of any payments made by the state,
3 28 shall be remitted by the postsecondary institution to the
3 29 commission. The commission shall deposit refunds paid to the
3 30 commission in accordance with this subsection into the fund
3 31 established pursuant to subsection 2.

3 32 4. EXTENT OF SCHOLARSHIP. A qualified resident student in
3 33 good standing at a community college, an institution of higher
3 34 learning under the control of the state board of regents, or
3 35 an accredited private institution as defined in section 261.9
4 1 may receive scholarships for not more than eight semesters of
4 2 undergraduate study, or the trimester or quarter equivalent,
4 3 if attending the institution on a full-time basis, or for not
4 4 more than sixteen semesters of undergraduate study, or the
4 5 trimester or quarter equivalent, if attending on a part-time
4 6 basis. A qualified resident student may defer acceptance of
4 7 scholarships awarded under this section for up to two years
4 8 following the student's graduation from high school in order
4 9 that the student may pursue military or other obligations.

4 10 5. MENTORING PROGRAMS OFFERED BY INSTITUTIONS. Each
4 11 community college, institution of higher learning under the
4 12 control of the state board of regents, or accredited private
4 13 institution that enrolls a student receiving a scholarship in
4 14 accordance with this section shall develop a specific
4 15 mentoring program to assist the scholarship recipients through
4 16 particularized academic and social counseling.

4 17 EXPLANATION

4 18 This bill creates a twenty-first century Iowa scholars
4 19 program and fund to be administered by the college student aid
4 20 commission to provide scholarships to pay the postsecondary
4 21 costs of tuition and mandatory fees for Iowa students who are
4 22 eligible for free or reduced price meals or are receiving
4 23 foster care who agree, in writing, in grade seven or eight, to
4 24 graduate with a 2.0 point or better grade point average, and
4 25 to refrain from illegal drug use, committing delinquent acts,
4 26 driving while intoxicated, tobacco use, and truancy. The bill
4 27 also requires the commission to conduct a study of the program

4 28 and to submit its plan, findings, recommendations, and a
4 29 fiscal analysis of the plan to the general assembly not later
4 30 than December 15, 2007.

4 31 To be eligible for a scholarship, students must be Iowa
4 32 residents, establish financial need, meet all program
4 33 eligibility requirements including those agreed to in grade
4 34 seven or eight, and apply for and be accepted by an accredited
4 35 postsecondary institution in Iowa.

5 1 Eligible students in good standing may receive scholarships
5 2 for not more than eight semesters of undergraduate study, or
5 3 the trimester or quarter equivalent, if attending the
5 4 institution on a full-time basis, or for not more than 16
5 5 semesters, or the trimester or quarter equivalent, if
5 6 attending on a part-time basis. The student must annually
5 7 file a new application for review and evaluation of continued
5 8 eligibility. The student may defer participation in the
5 9 scholarship program for up to two years in order to pursue
5 10 military or other obligations.

5 11 Each institution that enrolls a student receiving a
5 12 scholarship must develop a specific mentoring program to
5 13 assist the scholarship recipients through particularized
5 14 academic and social counseling.

5 15 The twenty-first century Iowa scholars fund is created in
5 16 the state treasury as a separate fund under the control of the
5 17 commission. Fund moneys are appropriated and made available
5 18 to the commission to be used for these scholarships.

5 19 The plan the commission is charged with developing must
5 20 provide for an internet home page, special scholar
5 21 publication, a toll-free telephone number, and the placement
5 22 and utilization of up to 15 regional program support sites.
5 23 The sites must provide tutoring, mentoring, summer camps,
5 24 cultural and arts outings, sports and recreational activities,
5 25 college visits, career preparation, job shadowing,
5 26 internships, study skills, literacy programs, newsletters,
5 27 community service projects, and parent activities. The
5 28 commission is also charged with identifying the amount
5 29 anticipated to be necessary to provide funding for the
5 30 scholarships, based on the results of the study and
5 31 preliminary estimates of the number of eligible eighth grade
5 32 pupils.

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